

Sustainable Procurement Policy

Sustainable procurement is defined as the use of procurement to support wider social, economic and environmental objectives that deliver benefits to the organisation, society and the economy whilst minimising damage to the environment.

The University's Strategic Imperatives include a specific Sustainability Imperative. The University Sustainable Procurement Policy supports and helps deliver this Imperative. In addition to University goals, this Policy follows the Government's Sustainable Procurement National Action Plan, in particular the Plan's Flexible Framework:

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/sustainable/government/documents/full-document.pdf>

The University will deliver Sustainable Procurement through:

1. Appointing a Sustainable Procurement Champion.
2. Ensuring procurement decisions are based on a balance between social, economic and environmental factors.
3. Ensuring procurement decisions include whole-life cost, energy consumption and disposal considerations.
4. Following "reduce, re-use and re-cycle" best practice.
5. Encouraging Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and local suppliers to bid for appropriate work.
6. Complying with all relevant procurement, environmental and other legislation.
7. Investigating the University's non-pay spend in order to identify high sustainability-impact suppliers and, where possible, reducing these impacts.
8. Assessing and monitoring suppliers' sustainability performance before, during and after contract award.
9. Ensuring staff involved in procurement decisions and contract management are properly and regularly trained in sustainable procurement best practice.
10. Ensuring this policy and progress on its implementation are widely communicated, both internally and externally.

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